

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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MEDIA ADVISORY

**INDEPENDENT CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER GRANTS
ADMINISTRATION POLICY,
UPDATES ON STRATEGIC PLAN, AND GOVERNANCE AND LEGISLATIVE MATTERS**

SAN FRANCISCO, CA – On Thursday evening and all day Friday (6/1 - 6/2/06), the Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee (ICOC) for the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine (CIRM) will meet in La Jolla.

WHO: Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee, the 29-member governing board of the CIRM.

WHAT: The ICOC will meet to consider a mission statement for the CIRM scientific strategic plan. The board charged CIRM President Zach Hall with formulating a draft of the document by October 2006. After several public meetings involving members of the Strategic Planning Advisory Committee, the ICOC, CIRM staff and the public, Hall is seeking the board's input on the overall objectives of the Strategic Plan that will cover the next ten years.

The board will also consider the interim Grants Administration Policy (GAP), which serves as the terms and conditions of grant awards issued by the CIRM. In addition, it provides guidance to recipients on their responsibilities as CIRM grantees. With the ICOC's approval, the GAP will enter into California's formal rulemaking process governed by the Administrative Procedures Act.

The ICOC will also hear updates on internal governance issues as discussed by the Governance Subcommittee on May 19th as well as current legislation.

WHEN: **THURSDAY, JUNE 1**
7:00 PM – 10:00 PM (Estimated)
NB: This ICOC meeting primarily will focus on direction for CIRM Scientific Strategic Plan.

FRIDAY, JUNE 2
9:30 AM – 5:30 PM (Estimated)

WHERE: **Hilton La Jolla Torrey Pines**
Scripps Ballroom
10950 North Torrey Pines Road
La Jolla, CA 92037

WHY: The ICOC is responsible for the oversight and management of the CIRM, which was established in 2004 with the passage of Proposition 71, the California Stem Cell Research and Cures Initiative. The statewide ballot measure, which provided \$3 billion in funding for stem cell research at California universities and research institutions, was approved by California voters, and called for the establishment of an entity to make grants and provide loans for stem cell research, research facilities, and other vital research opportunities.